CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

If any extension of time for this response is required, Applicants request that this be considered a petition therefore. Please charge the required fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

ADDITIONAL FEES

Please charge any further insufficiency of fees, or credit any excess to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

REMARKS

Each objection or rejection has been addressed below. Claims 1-6 are pending; claims 7-13 have been withdrawn.

Sequence Rules

Applicants regrettably acknowledge lack of compliance with sequence rules requiring proper SEQ ID NO: after sequences indicated in the body of the specification.

It is respectfully requested that the requirement for appropriate corrections be held in abeyance until allowable subject matter is acknowledged.

35 USC § 112, 1st paragraph

It is believed rejections under this section have been overcome by amendment.

Claim 1 and claim 6 have been amended to delete terminology directed to fragments, derivatives, etc. Accordingly, the rejection should be withdrawn.

Anticipation by Luciani

This rejection is overcome by amendment to claim 1. Specifically, references to 70% identity and hybridization are deleted.

Rejections Based on Bodzioch et al.

Bodzioch is overcome as a reference based on Applicants priority date of 25 September 1998; the filing date of provisional application 60/101706.

Bodzioch's earliest prior art date is August 1999. Therefore, all rejections based on Bodzioch would be properly withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

All § 112 issues and the rejections over Luciani have been addressed by amendment.

The rejections over Bodzioch should be overcome in view of Applicants' priority date.

Respectfully Submitted,

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IN THE CLAIMS

- 1. (Currently amended) A polynucleotide comprising a member selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) a polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2;
 - (b) a polynucleotide capable of hybridizing to and which is at least 70% identical to the polynucleotide of (a); and
 - (c) a polynucleotide fragment of the polynucleotide of (a) or (b).
- (Previously presented) The polynucleotide of claim 1 wherein the polynucleotide is DNA.
- (Currently amended) A vector containing one or more of the polynucleotides
 of claim 1 and 2.
- 4. (Previously presented) A host cell containing the vector of claim 3.
- (Previously presented) A process for producing a polypeptide comprising:
 expressing from the host cell of claim 4 the polypeptide encoded by said DNA.
- 6. (Currently amended) A polypeptide selected from the group consisting of
 - (a) a polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 1, or
 - (b) a polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide that is at least 70% identical with SEQ ID NO: 1, the encoded polypeptide having at least 70% identity with polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 2. and having the deduced amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and fragments, analogs and derivatives thereof, and
- a polypeptide comprising amino acid 1-to amino acid 2201 of SEQ ID NO:2.

 7. -13. (Canceled).